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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8302  
INFO RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0194

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 002168

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/23/2018  
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [ENRG](#) [ETTC](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [TRGY](#) [TU](#)  
SUBJECT: TURKEY/ENR: STILL REVIEWING NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS  
GROUP ENR GUIDELINES

REF: A. ANKARA 2126  
[1](#)B. SECSTATE 132033

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor Anthony Godfrey, Reasons 1.4 (b,d)

[1](#)1. (C) Following Ambassador's 12/15 meeting with MFA U/S Apakan (ref a), Pol-Mil Couns met with MFA DDG Ahmet Gun on 12/23 to press GOT to support the Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG) guidelines on the transfer of enrichment and reprocessing technology (ENR), drawing on reftel guidance. DDG Gun said the GOT is still reviewing the draft guidelines, but remain concerned by language in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the ad ref text. He noted Turkey shares concerns expressed by Spain and Switzerland. Specifically, Gun said the GOT believes it has the right to pursue nuclear enrichment under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and fears that the proposed guidelines will effectively force Turkey to give up that right. Gun made clear there is no government decision to pursue nuclear enrichment at this point, but that the GOT does not want to foreclose that option. He said one possibility the MFA is considering is to propose language in the text of the guidelines that would "exempt those who respect the conditions listed in para 6 from the restrictions enumerated in para 7." Gun said the GOT will be prepared to make clear its concerns ahead of the January 14 meeting of the NSG Consultative Group in Vienna, but would not commit to a date when GOT comments should be expected.

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Jeffrey